

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, insert the following heading:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 5, after line 13, insert the following heading:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 5, lines 15-20, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

It is now ~~the~~ an object of the present invention to eliminate the above-mentioned deficiencies in the prior art and to develop the method outlined at the outset in such a manner that complete ejection of the melt is particularly ensured during drilling in the direction of the incident laser beam radiation from the borehole duct without any deposits of solidified melt on the borehole edge.

On page 7, delete lines 18 and 19 as follows:

~~Preferred embodiments of the method become apparent from the subclaims.~~

On page 12, after line 13, please insert the following:

For a full understanding of the present invention, reference should now be made to the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a diagram showing the relationship of laser beam intensity to the distance from the laser beam axis.

Fig. 2 is a representational, cross-sectional diagram showing the distribution of the intensity in the laser beam and the arrangement of additional heating sources.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

On page 12, lines 14-16, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

The attached Fig. 1 sketches depicts the minimum values for the intensity  $I_0 = I_{\min}$  and the distance or segment  $w_0 = w_{\min}$ , case A being applicable to the above.

On page 20, after the last line, insert the following paragraph:

There has thus been shown and described a method for producing boreholes which fulfills all the objects and advantages sought therefor. Many changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications of the subject invention will, however, become apparent to those skilled in the art after considering this specification and the accompanying drawing which discloses the preferred embodiment thereof. All such changes, modifications, variations and other uses and applications which do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention are deemed to be covered by the invention, which is to be limited only by the claims which follow.